

winning the war on drugs in the 1980's those trends have been dramatically reversed.

According to the most recent National household survey on drug abuse, marijuana use among teenagers nearly doubled between 1990 and 1994, after 13 straight years of decline. Cocaine use is also up, and today more and more teenagers and young adults are resorting to drugs from the past like heroin and LSD.

In my own congressional district, drug use is back up to its highest levels ever. In Hamilton County, OH there has been a documented and dramatic increase in the past 12 months in the use of marijuana and harder drugs. And most frightening is that drug abuse is occurring among children at younger and younger ages.

Mr. Speaker, we must take bold and aggressive action. All Americans must be involved. The fight against drug abuse has to be handled community by community, and everyone needs to be involved.

INJUSTICES OF H.R. 2491—OMNIBUS BUDGET RECONCILIATION

(Mr. RUSH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the most egregious assault on the American people to date. Some of the missiles have already landed: \$182 billion has been cut from Medicaid, \$270 million has been cut from Medicare. Now that the enemy has pilaged these areas, they now seek to launch an all out offensive to achieve their ultimate victory—a tax cut for the wealthiest 10 percent of Americans.

The great injustices of history have been committed in the name of unchecked and unbridled majority rule. The Framers of the Constitution warned us about the tyranny of the majority. Their fears have become reality. The safety net of America is being snatched from under them. Affordable housing programs within the RTC and FDIC have been terminated. Some \$10 billion has been cut from student loans. The earned income tax credit will be reduced by 18 percent. Keep in mind, that individuals who receive EITC have an average income of \$11,000. The Republican majority has turned its back on the American people. This measure is tantamount to thievery—the theft of the sanctity of the American people.

BALANCING THE BUDGET IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO FOR OUR FUTURE

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, let me just read a quote from Ronald Reagan's first inaugural address:

... The crisis we are facing today requires our best effort and our willingness to believe in ourselves and to believe in our capacity to perform great deeds, to believe that together with God's help we can and will resolve the problems which now confront us. After all, why should we not believe that? We are Americans. That is just as true today as it was during the first inaugural address.

Mr. Speaker, the problem of having yearly billion-dollar deficits has to end. Period. The Federal Government cannot continue on the path it is on. This is not a Democrat or Republican problem, it is an everyone's problem. Congress can no longer run away from this problem like a bunch of scared chickens.

Today Congress will have the opportunity to put the Federal Government squarely on the path to a balanced budget. It must be done. It is the right thing to do for America's future. It will be done because we are Americans.

CHRISTMAS IN OCTOBER

(Ms. BROWN of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans are at it again. The party for the rich and famous has devised a budget plan in which all Americans lose, except the wealthy. Yes, Mr. Speaker, it is Christmas in October for all of those wealthy Republican campaign contributors because the Republicans are repaying them with generous tax breaks. Meanwhile, everyone else gets the short end of the stick.

Under the Republican's reverse Robin Hood budget plan, so many programs that middle class and working families depend on—education, Medicare, Medicaid, child nutrition, Head Start, daycare, earned income tax credit, and housing, just to name a few, are being robbed while the wealthiest corporations and individuals will reap a \$245 billion tax cut.

Mr. Speaker, in order to balance the budget, a shared sacrifice is necessary; everyone must make sacrifices, not just the middle class and working people.

The Republican budget plan will hurt American families. When it comes to family values, the Republican Party talks the talk but they certainly do not walk the walk. This budget proves it.

TODAY REPUBLICANS DELIVER CLINTON ADMINISTRATION'S PROMISE

(Mr. RIGGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, a child born today will pay an average of \$187,000 in taxes over 75 years just to cover his or her share of the interest on the national debt. Let me repeat that—a child born today will owe \$187,000 just on the interest of the national debt.

Mr. Speaker, for too long our Federal Government has squandered away the future of American families and their children. The Republican majority made a promise to the people to reduce the size of the Federal Government, balance the budget, and reduce overburdensome taxes, all in order to provide hope for the future. Today, we will pass the budget reconciliation bill which puts us on the path to a balanced budget by the year 2002.

Mr. Speaker, what the Clinton administration has promised, the Republicans will actually deliver.

THE REPUBLICANS' OUTRAGEOUS MEDICARE CUTS

(Mr. HILLIARD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans' budget cut Medicare funding by \$250 billion, and it is outrageous. Have they no shame?

The Republicans should not force those persons among us, who have the greatest needs, to suffer.

What my Republican colleagues are doing to our elderly and our disabled is disgraceful.

I am extremely concerned that our rural and inner-city hospitals are at serious risk. These huge Republican cuts, along with the steady increase in uncompensated care burden, would place these hospitals in jeopardy, and the hospitals have limited or no ability to shift the costs to payers.

The quality and access to needed health care is severely threatened.

The Republican's Medicare cuts are outrageous.

Because they refuse to listen to logic, it is my prayer that the American public hear me and that they will insist that this budget be vetoed.

□ 0930

THE CUBAN LIBERTY AND DEMOCRATIC SOLIDARITY ACT

(Mr. SOLOMON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. DIAZ-BALART], a member of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, could my colleagues imagine if during the Holocaust there had been a visit here by Hitler, and the press would have asked him "Who designs your suits? What is your favorite sport in the Olympics?" That is what we just saw during the visit by the Cuban tyrant, where some of our colleagues, as a matter of fact, met with him, and say now they are going to lead CODELS to go down there and lobby for the end of sanctions against him.

Some businessmen met with Castro and are asking him, "How many jobs can we transfer to your slave economy